



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

MCGARRY BAIR PC
171 MONROE AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 600
GRAND RAPIDS MI 49503

COPY MAILED

JUL 12 2006

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Johnson et al. :
Application No. 10/707,392 : **ON PETITION**
Filed: December 10, 2003 :
Attorney Docket No. 71189-1573 :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR §1.102(d), filed May 30, 2006, to make the above-identified application special. The petition requests that the above-identified application be made special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section II: Infringement.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

A grantable petition to make an application special under 37 CFR §1.102(d) and MPEP §708.02, Section II: Infringement, must be accompanied by the required fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.17(h) and a statement by the applicant, assignee, or attorney/agent registered to practice before the office alleging:


- (A) That there is an infringing device or product actually on the market or method in use;
- (B) That a rigid comparison of the alleged infringing device, product, or method with the claims of the application has been made, and that, in his or her opinion, some of the claims are unquestionably infringed; and
- (C) That he or she has made or caused to be made a careful and thorough search of the prior art or has a good knowledge of the pertinent prior art.

Applicant must provide one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record.

The petition complies with all the above stated requirements. Accordingly, the above-identified application has been accorded "special" status.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Petitions Examiner Liana Chase at (571) 272-3206. All other inquiries concerning either the examination or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

This matter is being referred to the Technology Center Art Unit 1744 for expedited prosecution.


David Bacci
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions